

**BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
GREAT BASIN SMOKEJUMPER
DISPATCH OPERATING PLAN
IDAHO
NEVADA
COLORADO/WYOMING
UTAH**

This Dispatch Operating Plan is intended to clarify Great Basin Smokejumper ordering procedures. These processes and procedures support the principle of speed and focus, by rapidly deploying and concentrating the smokejumper resource in a calculated fashion, which increases the likelihood of successful suppression actions. This document will be re-signed when major changes occur in the dispatch operating plan.

The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Great Basin Smokejumpers (GB SMJ) function as a third tier dispatch center, ID-JFC, under Western Great Basin Coordination Center (WGBCC). The Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer (SMJ DO) processes all requests and coordinates contingent activations of smokejumpers in GB SMJ operations. ID-JFC functions as the coordinating dispatch for the Alaska Smokejumpers (AK SMJ) when they integrate into GB SMJ operations.

BLM AUTHORITY FOR MOVEMENT OF BLM GREAT BASIN SMOKEJUMPERS

- A. Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations – Chapter 2
 - a. Fire Operations Division Chief (FA-300)
 - i. Serves as the BLM technical expert on national interagency mobilization and utilization of fire suppression resources.
 - ii. Develops national plans, standards, and technical guides for the BLM and interagency fire management operations.
 - b. Delegation of Authority for State Fire Management Officers – Chapter 2
 - i. Serves as the State Director’s authorized representative on geographic area coordination groups, including Multi-Agency Coordinating Groups (MAC).
 - ii. Coordinate and establish priorities on uncommitted fire suppression resources during periods of shortages.
 - iii. Coordinate logistics and suppression operations statewide.
 - iv. Direct accelerated, aggressive initial attack when appropriate.
 - v. Relocate agency pre-suppression/suppression resources within the state/region based on relative fire potential/activity.
- B. National Interagency Mobilization Guide – Chapter 20

BLM SMOKEJUMPER CONTINGENTS

The BLM National Office of Fire and Aviation – Division of Operations provides four contingents of GB SMJ to be prepositioned upon request in Idaho, Nevada, Colorado/Wyoming, and Utah for a defined period of time. Colorado and Wyoming will have a shared contingent. Each contingent consists of a *minimum* of twelve smokejumpers plus spotter and smokejumper aircraft. Idaho, Nevada, Colorado/Wyoming, and Utah may have smokejumpers committed to them that are physically located in Boise.

All efforts will be made to keep aircraft within GB SMJ operations staffed with a full load at all times. Mobility between state contingents and smokejumpers in Boise will be facilitated to quickly preposition smokejumpers as needs arise. Transportation will be coordinated by the SMJ DO and the hosting GACC.

CONTINGENT ACTIVATION / RELEASE

A hosting State Fire Operations Group (FOG) representative and/or their designee may activate a contingent of GB SMJ without a resource order. The State FOG representative will notify the SMJ DO and the hosting GACC. The SMJ DO will coordinate with WBGCC.

The hosting State FOG representative may release the GB SMJ contingent at any time. The State FOG representative will notify the SMJ DO and the hosting GACC. Delays in re-mobilization of a contingent may occur if assets are committed on fires elsewhere. A state's request to reactivate its contingent will be honored unless BLM state and/or national fire management in cooperation with geographic area coordination centers dictates otherwise.

INITIAL ATTACK (IA) REQUESTS

This dispatch operating plan allows movement of smokejumpers for IA between Idaho, Nevada, Colorado/Wyoming, and Utah without placing an order through the National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC).

Missions will not be delayed pending processing requests in ROSS as long as the necessary information to launch has been received by the SMJ DO. The Aviation Dispatch Form may be utilized to ensure complete information exchange. A request must be submitted in ROSS by the requesting unit as soon as possible.

Initial Attack (IA) requests are placed in ROSS as an aircraft request (A - #) "Load, Smokejumper, Initial Attack". A load of smokejumpers can be requested at any time from any hosting dispatch center or GACC following established dispatch procedures. The intent is to mobilize GB SMJ as quickly as possible for IA. Specifying the delivery system (i.e. Ram-Air or round) is not permitted.

Requests will be placed through the respective coordination centers (Western Great Basin, Eastern Great Basin, and Rocky Mountain). A notification should be made to the hosting State FOG representative if IA occurs across GACC boundaries that fall outside of established local neighborhood agreements.

BLM SMJ operates under established neighborhood policies identified in the Great Basin, Rocky Mountain, and National Mobilization Guides.

When a state's contingent is physically located in Boise and ordered for IA, the ordering center will place the initial notification call directly with the SMJ DO/ID-JFC Dispatch Center. The SMJ DO will notify WGBCC of the pending resource order. The local ordering center should then make immediate notification to their appropriate GACC. The receiving GACC will route the IA order through WGBCC when it arrives.

INITIAL ATTACK PREPOSITIONING

Smokejumpers may be requested and mobilized for preposition by a State FOG representative. The duration and details of the preposition will be negotiated prior to mobilization between the requesting unit, sending unit, and appropriate GACC.

Smokejumper “IA Preposition” requests will be placed in ROSS as “Load, Smokejumper, Initial Attack” with “IA Preposition” identified in special needs.

Smokejumpers will be released to their sending unit as need subsides unless BLM state and/or national fire management in cooperation with geographic area coordination centers dictates otherwise.

Upon considering a booster order into or out of the Great Basin Smokejumper program, the ordering GACC(s) must contact the Great Basin Smokejumper DO/ID-JFC Dispatch Center to discuss operational considerations to ensure an efficient ordering process.

BOOSTER REQUESTS

When a long term need for additional smokejumpers in the Great Basin and/or Rocky Mountain Areas is anticipated and cannot be supported by the Great Basin Smokejumpers, boosters can be requested following established dispatch procedures. Boosters may be kept for up to 14 days. Requests may specify a desired delivery system. All booster requests will be placed as individual overhead requests (O - #).

OVERHEAD REQUESTS / EXTENDED ATTACK

Individual overhead requests for GB SMJs will be processed through WGBCC to ID-JFC following established dispatch procedures.

Smokejumpers that remain on a fire in an extended attack capacity in overhead positions may be requested and filled in ROSS if necessary, based on local protocol. These overhead requests for GB SMJs will be placed through WGBCC to ID-JFC.

ALASKA / BOISE MOBILIZATIONS

THE GB SMJ and AK SMJ maintain a Great Basin/Alaska Smokejumpers Operating Agreement. As stated in the agreement, the exchange of 20 Great Basin Smokejumpers to Alaska, and 16 Alaska Smokejumpers to the Great Basin can be relied upon for planning purposes. These numbers will be maintained during periods of operational need. Normal detail length for shared BLM Smokejumpers between Alaska and Boise will be 21 days with the option to extend.

When AK SMJs are mobilized to the lower 48 under the BLM GB and Alaska Smokejumper Operations Agreement, they travel on a national or BLM State requested order. The BLM National Office Division of Fire Operations may request a State FOG representative place a support request for Alaska Smokejumpers through established dispatch channels.

Alaska Smokejumpers who are mobilized to GB SMJ operations will travel to Boise for briefing and orientation. Upon completion of their briefing, they become part of the Great Basin Smokejumper operation and are available to support the lower 48 as needed.

Ordering Methods other than Contingents in Great Basin Smokejumper Operations			
Request Type	Boise Request > GB SMJ Operations	Alaska Request < Into GB SMJ Operation	USFS Request < Into GB SMJ Operation
Initial Attack – Used when Smokejumpers are needed immediately for initial attack with aircraft	IA requests are placed as an aircraft request (A-#) “Load, Smokejumper, Initial Attack”. A load of smokejumpers can be ordered at any time from any dispatch center or GACC following established dispatch procedures. The intent of the IA order is to get smokejumpers to a going fire as soon as possible. Specifying the parachute system (i.e. Ram-Air/round) is not permitted.	N/A	IA requests can be placed for USFS smokejumpers. Closest resource concept and neighborhood agreements generally determine which base will fill the order(s).
IA Preposition – Smokejumpers may be requested and mobilized for preposition purposes when multiple starts are occurring or predicted. The duration of the preposition will be negotiated prior to launch between the requesting unit, sending unit, and appropriate GACC	Smokejumper “IA Preposition” requests will be placed in ROSS as “Load, Smokejumper, Initial Attack” with “IA Preposition” identified in special needs. Smokejumpers will return to their sending unit once the fire activity subsides unless BLM state and/or national fire management in cooperation with geographic area coordination centers dictates otherwise	N/A	USFS smokejumpers can be requested on an “IA Preposition” if the sending unit is willing to send their jumpers. Sending units typically are more willing to honor “IA” or “IA Preposition” requests due to the understanding that if they are not utilized they will return to their home unit without a 14 day commitment.
Booster – A long term need for additional smokejumpers is anticipated. Boosters may be requested following established dispatch procedures. Boosters may be kept for up to 14 days. Requests may specify a desired delivery system.	Smokejumpers will be ordered as Overhead (O order). Great Basin Smokejumpers can fill booster requests to other smokejumper bases. The GB SMJ DO/ID-JFC Dispatch Center in Boise will be notified immediately if a booster request is received. Boosters may come from more than one GB SMJ operation. The GB SMJ DO/ID-JFC Dispatch Center will fill the request, and assist with the logistics of the order.	State FOG representative will request more smokejumpers to augment contingents. GB SMJ DO/ID-JFC Dispatch Center will produce a Great Basin Smokejumper Support request in ROSS and Alaska Interagency Coordination Center (AICC) will fill the order with individual overhead (O-#).	State FOG representative may request more jumpers to augment contingents. These requests generally come when BLM AK SMJs are not available. The hosting GACC will produce booster requests.
Single Resource – Smokejumpers are requested for typical single resource assignments	The GB SMJ DO/ID-JFC Dispatch Center will fill all single resource requests for all smokejumpers in GB SMJ operations.	N/A	N/A

ACCIDENT REPORTING AND INVESTIGATION PROTOCOLS

Great Basin Smokejumpers will report and investigate accidents in compliance with:

- A. The National Interagency Standards for Fire and Fire Aviation Operations – Chapters 2 and 18.
- B. Required Treatment for Burn Injuries and Burn Injury Criteria – Chapter 7.
- C. The BLM Smokejumper Malfunction Abnormality Reporting System (MARS) for parachute and smokejumper related accidents.

The emergency notification process is as follows:

From the Scene:

- A. The accident is reported to the smokejumper spotter, Great Basin Smokejumper Liaison Officer (LO), and local dispatch.
- B. When the accident involves a jump injury, the spotter and/or ground contact will convey the medical needs and nature of the injury to the local dispatch.
- C. If cellular phone or satellite phone coverage is available, a ground contact will call the Great Basin Smokejumper LO or DO with details about the accident.

From the Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer:

- A. The Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer will notify the base manager.
 - a. The smokejumper base manager will notify the National Interagency Fire Center (NIFC) Fire Operations Chief of Preparedness and Suppression Standards (or acting).
 - b. BLM Operations Chief of Preparedness and Suppression Standards will inform necessary parties up the chain of command and notify the NIFC External Affairs Officer.
- B. The Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer will notify the State FOG representative.
- C. The Great Basin Smokejumper Duty Officer will confirm an agency representative accompanies the injured party to the hospital.

From the BLM Great Basin Smokejumper Base Manager:

- A. The smokejumper base manager will contact their base manager counterpart if a visiting jumper is injured.
- B. The smokejumper base manager will notify the emergency contact of the injured smokejumper if the injured smokejumper is unable to do so.

APPROVAL – BLM Great Basin Smokejumper Dispatch Operating Plan – 2013

<u>/S/ Hector Madrid</u> BLM Great Basin Smokejumper Base Manager	<u>4/9/2013</u> Date
<u>/S/ Rex McKnight</u> BLM Nevada State Fire Management Officer	<u>4/10/2013</u> Date
<u>/S/ Ken Kerr</u> BLM Colorado State Fire Management Officer	<u>4/9/2013</u> Date
<u>/S/ Angie Foster (Acting)</u> BLM Wyoming State Fire Management Officer	<u>4/9/2013</u> Date
<u>/S/ Mike Morcom</u> BLM Idaho State Fire Management Officer	<u>4/9/2013</u> Date
<u>/S/ Chris Delaney (Acting)</u> BLM Utah State Fire Management Officer	<u>4/10/2013</u> Date
<u>/S/ John Glenn</u> BLM-NIFC Chief of Fire Operations	<u>4/30/2013</u> Date
<u>/S/ Dave Curry</u> Western Great Basin Coordination Center Manager	<u>4/10/2013</u> Date
<u>/S/ Ruta Glinski</u> Eastern Great Basin Coordination Center Manager	<u>4/10/2013</u> Date
<u>/S/ Jim Fletcher</u> Rocky Mountain Area Coordination Center Manager	<u>5/1/2013</u> Date